

IRTS Radio News Bulletin Sunday January 28th, 2024

IRTS Updates

IRTS Awards Curator Mark EI4FNB asks that anyone in possession of IRTS trophies to begin the process of returning them. Mark will attend both the Phoenix and Limerick Clare rallies so they would be good opportunities to arrange the return of the trophies. His email address is available on the IRTS website under awards curator for anyone that wants to get in touch with him directly about this.

Contest Manager Mark EI6JK has published the results of the first Counties Contest of 2024. Operating on 80m, it attracted 42 logs. Conditions were reported as favourable for this contest. Well done to all the winners of each section. Mark noted that the SSB Low Power section attracted far more entries than any of the other categories. He also reported that the use of CW was low, and it should be remembered that CW gives a good points advantage.

South Eastern Amateur Radio Group EI2WRC

The January meeting of the EI2WRC group will take place tomorrow, Monday, January 29th at 8 p.m. sharp at the New Community Men's Shed, Ozanam Centre, Coffee House Lane, Waterford. Anyone that has an interest in amateur radio or communications in general are very welcome to come along. SWLs are in particular, very welcome to attend. For more information about EI2WRC, their activities, and for contact details please see www.searg.ie

EDIX Group Announce a DXpedition to Lesotho

The EDIX Group is delighted to announce confirmed dates for their upcoming DXpedition to Lesotho. From March 20th to 29th 2024, DJ9RR, EI2II, EI2JD, EI3ISB, EI3IXB, EI4HH, EI5GM, EI5GSB, EI6FR, EI8KN, EI9HQ, EI9FBB, and PA3EWP will be QRV as 7P8EI. They will operate up to eight stations from 160m through 10m on CW, SSB, and digital. Their license has already been issued. A webpage about the DXpedition is coming soon. You will be able to QSL via M0OXO's online QSL request system.

IRTS AGM Weekend Update

Shannon Basin Radio Club wish to remind everyone that tickets for the 2024 IRTS Gala Dinner in the Shearwater Hotel in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway are available to purchase. You can buy them directly from the club's website for the event which is www.sbrcl.ie/agmweekend If you are attending the Phoenix Amateur Radio Club rally and/or the Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club rally, you can buy your tickets from a

Shannon Basin Radio Club committee member there. Space is limited so please be advised to get your tickets as soon as possible.

EI25HEAL On the Air

Anthony EI9GMB based in Dundalk is operating a special callsign EI25HEAL. This callsign is dedicated to all those heal from cancer and not forgetting loved ones who have passed away. He will be active on the 20m, 15m, and 40m bands. Special QSL cards are available and any donations from the QSL cards go to his cancer charity.

Upcoming Contests

The next 80m contest of the 2023-2024 UK and Ireland Contest Club takes place next Wednesday 31st January 2024 at 20:00 local time on CW. The bonus stations EI5G, operated by Pete EI7CC, and GM5GEI, operated by Chris GM3WOJ will be active.

Rally Dates for your Diary

The Phoenix Amateur Radio Club Rally takes place on Sunday February 11th, 2024. It will be held in Coolmine Community School, Clonsilla, Dublin 15, Eircode D15 FW97. Admission is five euro and doors open at 11 a.m.

The Limerick Clare Amateur Radio Club Rally will take on Sunday February 25th in the Temple Gate Hotel, Ennis, Co. Clare. Doors will open at 11.00 a.m.

In April, the Shannon Basin Radio Club rally takes place on Sunday April 14th. It will be held in the Shearwater Hotel in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway as part of the 2024 IRTS AGM weekend. Doors will open at 10.00 a.m.

On Sunday 5th May 2024, the Lough Erne Amateur Radio Club's 40th rally will take place. It will be located at the Share Discovery Village at 221 Lisnaskea Rd, Lisnaskea, Enniskillen BT92 0JZ. Doors will open at 11 a.m. Admission will be five euro or five pound which includes a ticket for the draw on the day.

Propagation Update

The Hepburn Tropospheric Index indicates that moderate to high ducting is forecast for potentially a short period of time from Thursday afternoon next. This appears to be the first notable opportunity in 2024 so far for stations in Ireland to experiment with tropospheric propagation on the VHF and UHF bands.

Items for Inclusion in Next Week's Radio News

That is the news for this week. Items for inclusion in next week's radio news can be submitted by email to newsteam@irts.ie for automatic forwarding to both the radio and printed news services. The deadline is midnight on Thursday.

